



STATE OF UTAH
NATURAL RESOURCES & ENERGY
Oil, Gas & Mining

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M E M O R A N D U M
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TO: Mr. Steve McNeal, Bureau of Water Pollution Control and Files

FROM: Sally Kefer, Reclamation Hydrologist *SK*

SUBJECT: Atlas Minerals' Point Source Discharge Points
Probe Mine--ACT/015/011
Snow Mine--ACT/015/013
Pandora Mine--ACT/037/012 ✓
Calliham & Sage Mines--ACT/037/023
Velvet Mine--ACT/037/040

DATE: January 20, 1982

On December 17, 1981, Mr. Nick Torres, an engineer for Atlas Minerals, accompanied Vickie Ketvirtis and Sally Kefer on an inspection of the Pandora, Calliham-Sage, Velvet, Snow and Probe uranium mines in San Juan County, Utah.

One purpose of the inspection was to evaluate the recently renovated new and used oil storage areas at these sites. Previously, the used oil extracted from equipment, and waste water produced on the maintenance and wash pads was dumped down a spout which discharged directly through a pipe to intermittent drainages in the environment. There were four of these maintenance and wash pads inspected. There may, in fact, be others at other Atlas mine locations. While the used oil is now stored in large tanks on-site, the wash water which allegedly contains solvents and oils from the equipment surfaces is still discharged directly into the environment.

One of the maintenance men at the #6 maintenance facility stated that the steam cleaning process produced 3.75 gpm over the course of a few hours of use each day. Potentially, there is up to 500 gallons of wash water discharged per day from any one wash pad facility.

I notified Mr. Torres of Atlas Minerals' responsibility in compliance with the State of Utah's Water Pollution Control Act and the requirements of the NPDES permit system. At this time, there are no data available on the quality of the wash water effluent to determine whether such flows will meet State effluent limitations.

SK/btb